"The Greatest Nation" Has An Enthusiastic Premier

Pomp and Splendor, Artistic and Poetic License, Fairylike Simplicity, and Anti-War Message All Mingle in Forceful Play at Belasco.

"The Greatest Nation," a romantic drama by Marion Crighton and William Elliot, was given an enthusiastic premier at the Belasco Theater last night. Pomp and splendor, artistic and poetic license, fairy-like simplicity, forceful argument against war—these mingle throughout the prelude and three acts, during which a story is unfolded that applies forcefully to centuries ago, to the present day, and to all time

The message of the play is that the greatest nation is that one in which friendship and love replace the war-like spirit, and the marching armies are only those that go to their daily peaceful tasks; that, for centuries, the people have been fighting for their kings, and now it is time for the "kings to be fighting for their people." Enough of the fanciful and the romatic is interwoven to make the preachment against war not a dull

The story is that of neighboring kingdoms, Thor and Adlon. The principality of Donau in Ther was left to Crown Prince Alan by his mother on her death-

allusions to well-known products with which the lines are plentifully sprinkled seem to "go strong" with the audience seem to "go strong" with the audience just because they are so entirely fa-For Elderly People

not of that breed. Cohan & Harris have selected a company of the best grade of farceurs and have not economized in any of the little parts, for every character is cleverly and capably interpreted.

Cyrus Martin is a soap manufacturer, who has gained control of most of the product of the country, but has to lay schemes to make a man out of his idling son Rodney, a slow-spoken but likable youth, whose wits merely need stirring. The father provides a pretty typewriter for him to fall in love with, and quarrels with him over the proposed marriage in hope that this plan may start the boy going. Inspired by the talk of his friend, Ambrose Peale, a theatrical press agent, the boy starts wildly out into a soap business of his own, hits a catchy trademark, and begins a big advertising campaign, with the ald of his sweetheart and the breezy publicity man. Their wild and faky efforts to obtain capital needs breezy publicity man. Their wild and aky efforts to obtain capital and circum yent the shrewd parent, while keeping of creditors and keeping up appearances, ead to innumerable comic turns of events and witticism. Toward the end their motives and methods take a soberer trend and actual orders for soap begin to appear, till the father is convinced of the value of the son's violent advertis-

With only a back row or two vacant. With only a back row or two vacant, the National Theater was thronged last night with laughter-seekers, among them the President and Mrs. Wilson, confident that the long runs of "It Pays to Advertise" in Chicago and New York must signify good fun. There was no disappointment. This farce by Roy Cooper Megrue and Walter Hackett, dealing in mild satire with some of the methods of modern business. proves to night with laughter-seekers, among them the President and Mrs. Wilson, confident that the long runs of "it Pays to Advertise" in Chicago and New York must signify good fun. There was no disappointment. This farce by Roy Cooper Megrue and Walter Hackett, dealing in mild satire with some of the methods of modern business, proves to be one of the wittiest and snappiest of the season's lighter entertainments. It carries no profound message, for surely if any fact has become thoroughly acceptated by the American public it is the indisputable sentiment conveyed by the title.

Morton, whom she devotedly loves, and of whom Harding is intensely jealous. Upon the discovery by Harding that his intensely jealous. Upon the discovery by Harding that his players. The play is in five acts and eight scenes.

The presentation of the play is in five acts and eight scenes.

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The presentation of the emotional proportion of the emotional propoular years ago.

Miss Jane Ware is cast as Barbara, while the leading masculine role of archibald is allotted to Louis Ancher. Miss Ware gives a very careful and finished characterization of the part and finished characterization of the part and finished characterization of the part and finished characterization of the par of the authors against plausibility is the introduction of a modern "soap king" whose convictions on this point are un-The advertising statistics and

Farces of this kind are sometimes maltreated on the road by number two and three companies, but the cast presenting "It Pays to Advertise" in Washington is ot of that breed. Cohan & Harris have

The three chief male roles are richly

worked together. Radow sees the new light.

In addition to being the coplayright and producer, Mr. Elliott plays the leading part, that of Prince Alan. He is dignified and convincing, natural and artistic that the reads his lines well. His best work is presbably during the scene in which he receives the word of his fathers death. He doesn't fall into the easiest way—that of ranting—during his many arguments against war.

Great interest centered in the appearance of Mme. Yorska, formerly of the Theater Sarah Bernhardt and the Theater Sarah Bernhardt and the Theater of Thor in the prelude and Princess Xenia in the main part of the play. She doesn't have the opportunity to do what it is plain she can do—what she does do is a delight. Miss Olive Wyndham is beautiful and particularly effective as Crown Princess Adris. Her work is one of the many bright spots. The grouchy, despertic King Radow is well presented by Hay Forde. He makes the character a real one. Rowland Buckstone and J. Hooker Wright are the aged tutors, Peter and Stephen, respectively, and they add much to the effectiveness of the shock working and the production of the prolocal plants of the Land,"

The Law of the Land."

The contraining—of the first comedy and amusing realism; Richard Stering as the father of the second. This is "carnival" week at the popular buringue house, for it is a treat indeed to the patrons to have a team of such the patrons to have a team of such to the patrons to have a team of such to the patrons to have a team of such to the patrons to have a team of such to the patrons to have a team of such to the patrons to have a team of the second. The town the patrons to have a team of such to the patrons to have a team of the portion. The such the production that the production of the production that the production of th

The announcement of George Broad-hurst's thrilling melodrama, "The Law of the Land," at Poli's, was sufficient to crowd the spacious Avenue playhouse last evening, and the popular players provided a performance unique in stock company excellence. Among recently successful thrillers

of the distraught wife now affords Florence Rittenhouse admirable op-portunities for some remarkably realstic acting.

The reasons for the melodrama's popularity are obvious, and in the hands of the Poli company, it may be said in all truth that its merits suffer no concealment. Mrs. Harding is the wife of a prominent lawyer, who treats her with such brutality that she shoots him dead when he attempts to use a horsewhip on her little son. She has, however, had a secret lisison for some years past with Geoffrey Morton, whom she devotedly loves, and

tween confession of the crime and the resultant scandal to herself and her child, or the spectacle of her lover being condemned for murder. Morton insists on shouldering the crime, and urges her to consent to sacrifice him in order to save the future of their son. She consave the future of their son. She con-fesses, however, to a kindly police in-spector, who has a newly-born set of twins of his own, and he therefore con-cluded from her confession that "the gun fell and was accidentally discharged, shooting Harding through the heart."
The natural exhibition of grief and terror displayed by Miss Rittenhouse as the wife was a most admirable simulation. With all due respect to her pre-

decessor in the part on Broadway, it must be said that she played with more shading and less monotone. A. H. Van Buren gained all possible sympathy for the lover Morton; and Helen Hayes Brown signalized her brief return to the stage by a compelling performance of the child. J. Hammond Dailey and Howard Lang.

as the urbane butler and kindly police inspector, were particularly good; as were Ralph Remiey and Ben Taggart in carefully considered performances. Blanche Frederici and John Kline are dependable players in small parts. A special word of commendation is due the three interior settings, which are quite effective, and superior from an artistic standpoint.

B. F. KEITH'S.

"The Forest Fire," Langdon McCor-

eaux, sent the audience home Keith's last evening quivering with more emotion than can ordinarily be compassed in a forty-minute production. "The Forest Fire" offers a most ambitious effort on the part of a vaudeville manage ment to present old-fashioned melodrama.

As a theatrical picture, "The Forest Fire" is elaborate. It tells the story of nchingly a prison sentence to save he from disgrace, which she has not merit-ed, although he is not permitted to know this until the climax of the story finds discloses to him that the story of her shame was but the deliberate concoction of an erring brother uttered to shield himself. The closing tableaux puts the story of her strated the extreme popularity of Williamself. The closing tableaux puts the story of the condition of Moore's G den Theater yesterday fully demonstrated the extreme popularity of Williamself.

strated the extreme popularity of William discloses to him that the story of her shame was but the deliberate concection of an erring brother uttered to shield himself. The closing tableaux puts the audience in intimate touch with the forest conflagration, so that the theater actually recked of smoke.

"Jimmie" and Bonnie Thornton, admitting that they are sexagenarians, gave an old-time vaudeville skit of their own, which permitted "Jimmie" to more after twenty-rive years' absence, and Bonnie to sing "Annie Rooney" once more after twenty-rive years' absence, and Bonnie asked the sudience to help out with the chorus, too, and the auditors and Bonnie asked the sudience to help out with the chorus, too, and the auditors will be a preceded with his work in this picture, for his yeight will have sare and in his supported with vigor. Ruth Roye in her compiled with vigor. Ruth Roye in her view was warmly applauded, as was also yeight and Joseph E. Bernard and Hazel Haslam Joseph E. Bernar with the chorus, too, and the additions complied with vigor. Ruth Roye in her complied with vigor. Ruth Roye in her "Peppertoire of Songs" was delightful. Frederick Bowers' New Scenic Song Review was warmly applauded, as was also port are House Peters, best remembered for his work as Stephen Ghent in "The Rialto," in which Bert Savoy and Jay Brennan scored a success. Joseph E. Bernard and Hazel Haslam gave an ultra-modern version of the "Taming of the Shrew," which proved a sermon on the sin of jealousy with a distinctly humorous flavor. The Calities and Mr. Peters, during which they pretty Brothers' humorous dances also pleased.

Well demolish a beautifully appointed with vigor. For his characterization is on a higher plane than this country.

"Therefore, so far from being the exhausted Britisher in everything that constitutes real and true wealth, we shall be a better organized, better equipped, better trained, and, what is more important, perhaps, a better disciplined nation. In fact, we shall indeed be national and not a congeries of conflicting interests."

A Pacific Man.

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A Pacific Man.

GAYETY. Barlesque.

There are two shows for the price of one at the Gayety this week, and each offering is a big one. Ed Lee Wrothe is

BEST TREATMENT FOR CATARRH

S. S. S. Removes the Cause.

S. S. S. Removes the Cause.

Specialists in Caiarrh troubles have arreed that it is an infection or the blood. The laboratories of the S. S. S. Co., at Atlanta, have proven it. Once you get your blood free from impurities—cleaned of the Catarrhal poisons, which it is now a prey to because of its unhealthy state—you will be relieved of Catarrhal—the dripping in the throat hawking and spitting, raw sores in the mostrik, and the disagreeable bad breath. It was caused, in the first place, because your impoverished blood was easily infected. Possibly a slight cold or contact with someone who had a cold, But the point is—don't suffer with Catarrhal fit was caused, in the first place, because any drug store. The remedy S. S. S. the one and begin treatment. If yours as a sone and begin treatment. If yours as a once and begin treatment with S. S. S. the latter of the your department of the your d

Harry Slatko's "Midnight Rollickers," in their terpsichorean festival, "Dancing tround," was the leading attraction in the Cosmos Theater's bill which pleased Among recently successful thrillers Among recently successful thrillers have taken a stronger hold on Broadway's favor than this compelling play, which will be remembered as one of the best vehicles for her talents for the best vehicles for her talents fulls Dean ever had, and the role Holmes, in "One Night," and Rio and Holmes, in "One Night," and Rio and Morrad a novelty acrobatic offering, its auditors yesterday. Marie West, a character singing comedienne, made her first appearance in Washington, assisted Norman, a novelty acrobatic offering, were among the leading numbers offered. Edith Storey and Antonio Moreno fea-tured in the photoplay, "A Price for

CASINO.

A new version of the old play, "East Lynne," adapted from the original and staged by Elmer H. Brown, was pre-sented at the Casino last night by the Hall Players. The play is in five acts and eight scenes.

is seen as Isable Carlyle and lives up to her reputation as an actress of ability in her visualization of the role.

The story of "East Lynne," while known to those who frequent the theater and to the thousands who have read the book, has lost none of its charm. It is a touching story of a foolish woman and the strength of a mother's love. In

Miss Maude Eburne, Miss Nona Kelly, and Gale Satterlee were especially good in their respective parts. The production is given an ample

LOEW'S COLUMBIA.

Blanche Sweet, the inimitable dramatic screen star, is appearing in pictures at Loew's Columbia Theater the first three production of "The Ragamuffin."
Few artists of the screen today have

attained a higher degree of popularity than has this delightfully charming and forceful dramatic delineator, who again cent residences reduces to ashes.

destruction of the vast City of New York fidence in victory for the allies, I asked him what he prognosticated if they were cent residences reduces to ashes. reaches the pinnacle of pantomimic expression in her vivid portrayal of the girl who, having been raised in the en-vironment of the underworld, learns her first lesson in kindness from the young bachelor who finds her endeavoring to

and air. Peters, during which they pretty well demoilsh a beautifully appointed drawing-room. As a supplementary at-traction the program includes the famous funmakers. Weber and Fields, in a side-splitting Keystone comedy, "The Worst of Friends"

MOORE'S STRAND THEATER. "The Battle Cry of Peace."

"If the military class in Germany should win," he said with great vehemence, "their triumph will be permanent. Make no mistake. We should witness the triumph of an ideal—pernicious ideal, of course—but a potent one. It

N SUDDUTAL

first lesson in kindness from the young bachelor who finds her endeavoring to rob his home. Instead of turning her music and songs, a well-drilled chorus, and many elaborate changes of scenery which has been the basis of all military. persuades her to start a new and better and costumes marks another successive The struggle to do right against every skit, called "The Mashers." Phil Collong star exceptional opportunities for Kukle, as an Irish comedian, are well The struggle to do right against very possible obstacle afford this charming joung star exceptional opportunities for running the entire gamut of dramatic expression, swaying her audience to pity, hatred and love, until at last she reaches her haven of rest as the wife in the luxuriant home of the man who awakens the spirit of good within her and wins her love.

THEATER.

Ilins, as a restrict comedian, and supported by Miss Edith Astor, who renders and generation and dates and each successive election would vanish at each s

BRITISH SOON TO HAVE
WORLD'S LEADING ARMY

drawing-room. As a supplementary attraction the program includes the famous funmakers, Weber and Fields, in a side-splitting Keystone comedy, "The Worst of Friends."

These pictures will hold the acreen until Thursday. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday Helen Ware, star of "Within the Law," "The Price" and other big program in D. W. Griffith's latest success, "Cross Currents." It is an enthralling story of the South Sea Islands.

There is not a more essentially pacific man in the world than Lloyd-George, but he loves liberty more than life.

"As you know," he said, when I mentioned disputes by organized force. I fought this putes by organized force. I fought this putes by organized force in the Washington Loan and Trust Building, at 8 o'clock tonight. All interested and was in favor of Britain entering this war because I saw in it the only means of destroying this hideous German menace to peace and civilization.

"Everything that has happened in the "Everything that has happened in the succession of the suc

"Everything that has happened in the eighteen months of war has tended to confirm me in what Premier Asquith has called 'The Great Decision.' You will has called 'The Great Decision.' You will remember that Mazzini said war is the greatest of crimes when it is not waged for the sake of a great truth to enthrone or a great lie to entomb. Yes, the allies are engaged in a mighty effort to dig the grave of that wicked lie that 'might is right,' and, mark you, we shall not cease to strive to our uttermost until we have due the grave deep and wide and

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You'll surely see

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The gladsome glee

Reaches high degree

When they serve-

"The Velvet Kind"

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mind.

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PEER OF ALL DANCERS, And CHARLES EAGAN, The Singing Puglist, With a Sig Company, in "THE MASHERS," and Chorus of 20 Pretty Girls with Weil-filled Stockings.

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Tuesday, Jan. 20, 11s Literary Character and History Wednesday, Jan. 25, 11s Literary Character and History Wednesday, Jan. 25, 11s Emerital Teachness, Threaday, Jan. 25, 11s Emerital Teachness, Physics, Ph AMERICAN UNIVERSITY.

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"THE CO-RESPONDENT

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25 "THE LAW THE LAND" With A. H. VAN BUREN. 75 Next Week - "The Dummy."

LOEW'S COLUMBIA BLANCHE SWEET THE RAGAMUFFIN

Main, 7260, Please.

Hooker Wright are the aged tutors, Peter and Stephen, respectively, and they add much to the effectiveness of the show. Sydney Mather, as an engineer, Rowland Rushton as Baron Saize, Henry Duggan as Count Breckton, and Charles Mussett and Gordon Burby as Gens. Hewin and Brookes, are excellent, and round out a company that is capable in every way. Throughout the whole offering stand prominently the elaborate and individe. prominently the elaborate and individ-ualistic settings of Joseph Urban. His imagination is allowed to run full sway. Nothing like what he has done has been seen before in drama. He has set a new WILLIAM ELLIOTT. "The Greatest Nation" is one of the strongest arguments against warfare that has yet appeared. NEW NATIONAL. "It Pays to Advertise."



ister of war of Thor that his father frowns upon the canal project, as the overflowing waters will irrigate the lands of the adjoining kingdom, will enrich it, and will make it better able of Donau in Ther was left to Crown to withstand a siege in case of war. Prince Alan by his mother on her deathbed, with the prayer that he rule it with a scepter of love and not of iron.

with a scepter of love and not of iron. To Donau comes Crown Princess Adris, of Adlon, while Alan is completing a huge engineering project, that of constructiong a canal that will make an outlet to the ocean and at the same time bring the waters down from the mountain lakes for the purposes of irrigation.

Donau is on the boundary line between the two kingdoms, and Alan has succeeded in stiffing the spirit of ricastle. She flees to Alan and tells of

tween the two kingdoms, and Alan has succeeded in stifling the spirit of ricastle. She flees to Alan and tells of her father's plans. Word comes that neighbors, and they have worked in peace side by side. The prince and princess lose their hearts to each other. On the day before the opening of the canal, the royal chancellor of Adelon arrives with orders from the King that his daughter return to her father's plans. Word comes that Alan's father has been assassinated by an Adlouian. Contrary to the protections for war by his ministers and army chiefs, he decides to go to the season's lighter entertainments. It carries no profound message, for surely it and army chiefs, he decides to go to the season's lighter entertainments. It carries no profound message, for surely it and army chiefs, he decides to go to the season's lighter entertainments. It carries no profound message, for surely it and army chiefs, he decides to go to the season's lighter entertainments. It carries no profound message, for surely it and army chiefs, he decides to go to the season's lighter entertainments. It carries no profound message, for surely it and army chiefs, he decides to go to the season's lighter entertainments. It carries no profound message, for surely it and army chiefs, he decides to go to the season's lighter entertainments. It carries no profound message, for surely it and army chiefs, he decides to go to the season's lighter entertainments. It carries no profound message, for surely it and army chiefs, he decides to go to the season's lighter entertainments. It carries no profound message, for surely it and the season's lighter entertainments. It carries no profound message, for surely it and the season's lighter entertainments. It carries no profound message, for surely it and the season's lighter entertainments. It carries no profound message for the entertainments are carries no profound message for the carries no profound message for surely it and the season's lighter that the methods of methods of methods of methods Splendid Laxative

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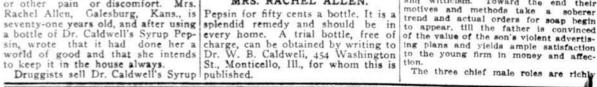
The infirmities of age are especially manifest in a tendency to constipation, and call for treatment that will afford relief in an easy, natural manner. The rapid action of cathartic remedies and purgatives that shock the system should be avoided, more especially as the relief they offer is only temporary and is usually more than offset by disturbance to the vital

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